



Meeting Minutes

Sculthorpe Parish Council

Wednesday 4 November 2020 at 7pm, via video conferencing

Parish Councillors present: Brian Watkin (Chairman), Tony Walters (Vice Chairman), Gillian White, Roger London, Penny Ramm, Ken Dawson, Simon Read, Cllr Marie Strong (County Councillor) until item 11.3, Tom FitzPatrick (District Councillor) until item 11.3. Also in attendance: Jodie Bond (Parish Clerk), there were no members of the public.

1. Welcome and to receive and accept apologies for absence

No apologies received.

2. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensations

No declarations of interest or requests for dispensation were made.

3. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 2 September 2020

The minutes were approved without amendment.

4. To report progress on items not on the agenda from the last meeting

- Land registry are still processing our application for the village hall and bowls green.

5. Receive reports from Local PC, NCC Cllr & NNDC Cllr, if attending

NNDC Cllr Tom FitzPatrick

The Fakenham car parks will be free on Sunday 8th for Remembrance Day.

NNDC are working closely with the HSE to maintain hands sanitizers and equipment and seek advice.

There is funding available from Green Homes Grant for low income households, to help reduce their energy bills and insulation for their homes etc.

There is a Tourism Grant that has been well taken up in the past and hopefully will continue after the lockdown restrictions.

Funding has been obtained for a new roundabout on A148 at Water Moor Lane to allow the development to go ahead. Some discussion followed regarding existing tail back issues that may be made worse with this roundabout. Cllr FitzPatrick added that careful design and planning will be required.

DRAFT until agreed at the next meeting

Cllr Strong advised that once the planning application is submitted there will be an opportunity to make comments on the plans.

A new planning software system is being installed from 13th November, there may be some system down time while it installs.

The Sustainable Communities Fund (which replaces the Big Society Fund) is available. Grants up to £1000 have a quicker turn around than larger funding bids.

NCC Cllr Strong – (please see report as appendix 1)

Recycling centres will remain open during lockdown but libraries will be shut down during lockdown.

We have had the first gritting of the season.

The Government & NCC websites will be kept up to date with current information.

6. Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public

None present

7. To receive updates from council members (for information only)

7.1 Speed Watch

The team have been out 5 times but there will be no more watches until mid February 2021 due to the lockdown restrictions.

7.2 Village Hall Committee report

The last Committee meeting was not attended by a Council representative. The Parish Council members were not invited to attend, therefore Cllr Read has stepped down from the Committee. Cllr Watkin will raise this issue with the Committee so that the Council are not excluded from future meetings.

Cllr Watkin will also enquire about the amount of funding already raised towards the new roof and report back at our next meeting.

The mobile Rainbow Deli will continue to visit the village and will be paying a pitch fee to the Hall Committee.

8. Open Spaces

One of the bus shelter glass panels has been smashed. The debris has been cleared away. Clerk to obtain specification and prices of a suitable replacement.

8.1 Blacketts Pond Area Update

Three Trees have withdrawn from quoting for the revised pond works as it is outside of their usual remit.

Cllr Watkin will be meeting with John Service this week to discuss and obtain a further quotation for the proposed plans.

DRAFT until agreed at the next meeting

FACT would be pleased to be involved with the ongoing maintenance of the pond area.

8.2 Play Area

8.2.1 Dog Signs and Litter Bin Update

The new post and dog signs have now been installed. The litter bins have also been installed. NNDC have been instructed to carry out a monthly empty of the litter bins. This will be monitored and altered if required.

8.3 Report and discuss any Highways issues

Clerk to add a few more raised issues to the Highways Rangers list for November.

Clerk to follow up with the Highways Inspector regarding the rusty sign posts at the top of Moor Lane, deep surface water on the New Wells Road junction with A148, surface water and flooded ditches at the side of the Dels Road (and all the traffic cones have disappeared).

Cllr Strong suggested taking photos and sending to Highways.

Cllr London has been in touch with Highways regarding the access along the Old Roman Road/Old Wells Road that should be a public right of way, there are gates across in two separate places which currently blocks public access. Cllr Strong will follow this up.

8.4 Discuss and consider projects for the Parish Partnership Scheme bid application

8.4.1 SAM2

Prices had been circulated to Councillors. Four locations were discussed including near the school, The Street/Moor Lane near the Village Hall, Burnham Market Road, Creake Road towards Dels. Clerk will arrange for a Highways inspector to carry out a site visit to agree the most beneficial locations for a SAM2.

8.4.2 Outdoor Gym Equipment

Initial prices had been circulated to Councillors. Following discussion it was agreed to move forward with this project, which will include a minimum of 4 items of gym equipment, and obtain formal quotations. Funding will be applied for via the NNDC Sustainable Communities Grant and possibly another funding stream. Update to follow.

9. Planning Matters

9.1 To receive results of applications

Lodge Farmhouse, Wells Dry Road, West Barsham, Fakenham, NR21 9NW

PF/20/0931 | Conversion of former farm buildings with associated external alterations to form single dwelling with annexe; erection of detached garage and store building (part retrospective)

PC comment - No objection, NNDC decision – No decision

6 Creake Road, Sculthorpe, Fakenham, NR21 9NF

PF/20/1201 | Single-storey front extension

PC comment – No objection, NNDC decision – Permitted

Cranmer Hall Barn, Creake Road, Sculthorpe, Fakenham, NR21 9HX

PF/20/1072 | Removal of conditions 9 (restricting use to holiday accommodation purposes only)

10 (property to be available for holiday letting for at least 140 days a year with no individual let exceeding 31 days) and 11 (requirement for a register of letting, occupation and advertising be maintained) of permission planning ref: PF/15/0116 (conversion of former cattle/agricultural pens to holiday let accommodation), to allow unrestricted residential occupation

PC comment – No objection, NNDC decision – Permitted

9.2 To receive and consider new applications

46 Moor Lane, Sculthorpe, Fakenham, NR21 9PX

PF/20/1716 | Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory

PC comment – No objection, NNDC decision – No decision

10. Correspondence

- Clerks & Councils Direct magazine.
- The Lighthouse Project – Suicide prevention online training may be available.
- New Fakenham Roundabout – (discussed under item 5)

11. Finance

11.1 To approve the Payment of Accounts List

The Council RESOLVED to approve the payments list (see page 5)

11.2 To Agree the Budget and Precept for 2021/22

The Clerk presented a draft of the budget for discussion. The Council RESOLVED to approve the budget and set the precept at £8085 for 2021-22. This represents no increase.

11.3 To consider and agree a donation for Remembrance Day

It was discussed and agreed to make a £20 donation to SSAF this year instead of buying another poppy wreath. The existing poppy wreath will be laid on behalf of the Parish Council this year. Due to the new Government lockdown restrictions there will not be a Remembrance Sunday service this year.

11.4 To Consider and Agree a New Laptop for the Clerk

It was discussed and AGREED that a laptop will be rented from Hughes Electrical (or equivalent local supplier) at the proportionate rate of £4.83 per month.

12. To Review the Financial Regulations and Risk Management Policy

The Clerk proposed adoption of the updated Financial Regulations and approve the Risk Management Policy without amendments. The Council RESOLVED to approve and adopt the policies.

13. Receive items for next agenda and note the date of the next meeting

Inclusions for the next meeting include, Bus Shelter New Glass Panel update & Play Area Zip Wire Platform update.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 6 January 2020 at 7pm. Meeting was closed at 9.20pm

Signed by Chairman: Date:

Sculthorpe Parish Council payment of accounts list (item 11.1). Payments to be made by BACs.			
Payment to	Description		Payment
Clerk	Salary		£348.64
Clerk	Wix Website Hosting		£86.40
Hempton PC	Clerk Expenses		£15.37
CGM Ltd	Grass Cutting		£166.32
RSL Construction	Play Area Litter Bins and Post		£309
Francis Beckham	Annual Allotment Rent		£12
Steve Jackman	New Website Set Up		£67.50
Total payments approved			£1005.23
Receipt from	Description		Receipt
Barclays Bank	Interest	DC	£0.97
NNDC	Precept 2 nd Instalment	DC	£4042
HMRC	VAT Refund	DC	£1654.84
Bowls Club	Rental for 2018 & 2019		£200.00
Total payments received			£5896.84

Starting with a reminder of normal life fireworks, fostering and Cherry Tree Corner:

Fireworks – Bonfire Night will soon be over but various small celebrations may well be under consideration. Whilst we all know to buy from reputable sellers Norfolk Fire Brigade would like us to check on firework and bonfire safety by going to: www.norfolk.gov.uk/fire.

Norfolk Fostering Service is Looking for Local Foster Carers for Local Children:

A stable and loving home can make an incredible difference to a child or young person, while also being an enlightening and rewarding experience for the foster carer. Carers are needed for children of all ages. The Council welcomes people from all sorts of backgrounds to care for our children and young people in different ways. They need someone who meets their particular needs and these differ greatly – so children and carers are matched very carefully. Some carers still work full or part-time while fostering mainly as respite carers. Some welcome the children and young people into their homes to live with them all the time, while for others it might just be a weekend a month; some are emergency carers we can call on if we need them. Foster carers are paid an allowance which is dependent on experience and training. *'We would like to hear from the optimistic, adventures and positive individuals who can offer a child meaningful support. Text FOSTERING 287222'*

Cherry Tree Corner: A while back some eight local councils expressed interest in a roundabout to ease the Cherry Tree Corner congestion. I am sharing the information via the Chronicle since frequently surprised as to who uses that route. And I am not yet privy to the full details which will become clearer when the proposal goes to planning but here is an EDP extract:

'Funding secured for new A148 roundabout - paving way for 950 homes and school. North Norfolk District Council has secured £928,000 in matched funding to help finance the building of the £2m roundabout to support a new housing ...'

Clear face masks: Good news - NHS and care workers to be given clear face masks helping communication with people with conditions such as hearing loss, autism and dementia. The masks are see-through and have an anti-fogging barrier ensuring face and mouth always visible to aid communication. Social care providers will have access to the masks through a new pilot system.

Rough sleepers to be helped to keep safe this winter – The government has announced support to give local areas the tools and funding they need to protect people from life-threatening cold weather and the risks posed by coronavirus. Includes a £10 million Cold Weather Fund to support councils get rough sleepers off the streets during the winter and **an additional £2 million for faith and community groups to help them provide secure accommodation for rough sleepers.**

Apply for a kickstart scheme grant: I am told worth looking again at the Government's guidance for employers looking to create job placements for young people - [Kickstart Scheme](#) provides funding to create new job placements for 16 to 24 year olds on Universal Credit at risk of long term unemployment. Employers can apply for funding as part of the Kickstart Scheme.

COVID-19 Information: Guidance and instructions change rapidly and are **becoming** more localised. Check for updates via the official and updated websites:

www.norfolk.gov.uk/coronavirus

(this includes the effect on local services as well as the latest regulations for Norfolk and reference to many if not all of the government schemes)

www.gov.uk/coronavirus

(all the government schemes are to be found on this site)

www.nhs.uk/coronavirus

Please keep remembering those without a lap top etc. If you spot something which might be of value or interest to such a person consider asking if they would like a copy.

Finally I would like to acknowledge the many good works which continue to take place throughout our division – sometimes without a recipient knowing who performed the good deed.

Take Care

Marie

County Cllr Dr Marie Strong
Wells Division